

SANDY KANE SMITH
President, District Five
MALCOLM PERRY
Vice-President, District Two
DONALD HART
District One



HUDSON HOLLIDAY
District Three
JASON SPENCE
District Four
MELINDA BOWMAN
Clerk of Board

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
PEARL RIVER COUNTY
P.O. BOX 569
POPLARVILLE, MS 39470
(601) 403-2300
(601) 403-2309 Fax
ADRAIN LUMPKIN, JR.
County Administrator

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
United States House of Representatives
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2404

Re: Congressional Community Project (CPF) Request – Construct a New Clinic in Poplarville, MS to Provide Better Access to Care

Dear Representative Ezell:

Please consider this letter of support for Forrest General Hospital's ("FGH") request for Community Project Funds to construct an outpatient health care clinic near its existing Pearl River County Hospital campus in Poplarville, Mississippi. It is well-documented that Mississippi has an "access to health care" shortage. In fact, Mississippi was ranked 50th in the most recent health care rankings published by US News "Best States" rankings. The report indicated that Mississippians have arguably the worst access to care in the US. Utilizing community project funding programs, such as the CPF program, is essential for Mississippi to meet the health care needs of its communities, especially rural communities like Poplarville. In addition, funding this community project will not only allow for better access to health services but it will create a facility that the patients, staff, and community will all benefit from.

It would be a tremendous community benefit to offer primary care and pediatric services near the existing campus of Pearl River County Hospital in a clinic setting that is conveniently located with easy access, and designed to Not be overlooked, this new building would also be a tool to recruit and retain health care providers to practice in this rural community.

To that end, I believe that funding this project will benefit Poplarville and the surrounding areas of Pearl River County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sandy Kane Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sandy Kane Smith, President
Pearl River County
Board of Supervisors



PEARL RIVER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

March 16, 2023

The Honorable Mike Ezell
United States House of Representatives
443 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2404

Re: Congressional Community Project (CPF) Request – Construct a New Clinic in
Poplarville, MS to Provide Better Access to Care

Dear Representative Ezell:

Please consider this letter of support for Forrest General Hospital's ("FGH") request for Community Project Funds to construct an outpatient health care clinic near its existing Pearl River County Hospital campus in Poplarville, Mississippi. It is well-documented that Mississippi has an "access to health care" shortage. In fact, Mississippi was ranked 50th in the most recent health care rankings published by US News "Best States" rankings. The report indicated that Mississippians have arguably the worst access to care in the US. Utilizing community project funding programs, such as the CPF program, is essential for Mississippi to meet the health care needs of its communities, especially rural communities like Poplarville. In addition, funding this community project will not only allow for better access to health services but it will create a facility that the patients, staff and community will all benefit from.

It would be a tremendous community benefit to offer primary care and pediatric services near the existing campus of Pearl River County Hospital in a clinic setting that is conveniently located with easy access, and designed to Not to be overlooked, this new building would also be a tool to recruit and retain health care providers to practice in this rural community.

To that end, I believe that funding this project will benefit Poplarville and the surrounding areas of Pearl River County.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Ward
Director of Economic Development



PEARL RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANA J. CAUSEY, PH.D.

jcausey@prcc.edu

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write in strong support of Forrest Health's initiative to establish a clinic for the residents of Poplarville. Pearl River Community College supports over 1000 students in dorms on campus. It is imperative that those students have the ability to receive adequate healthcare. Rural Americans face many difficulties with accessing quality health services and Forrest Health is willing to meet their needs. Currently, nearly 60 million Americans live in a rural community, with 51.2 percent of Mississippi's population residing in rural areas. With the recent discussion of Mississippi's reduced healthcare offerings, this expansion is a welcomed addition. The proposed healthcare expansion will address the difficulties of these rural communities.

Pearl River Community College has nursing programs in Poplarville that would greatly benefit from the establishment of a clinical facility such as the one being proposed. Our nursing faculty struggle to find necessary clinical experiences to prepare our future nurses to deliver top-notch healthcare. The addition of this clinic will strengthen our workforce, collaboration, integration, coordination of care, and provide the opportunity for our students in both our Associate Degree Nursing program and our Practical Nursing program to receive clinical experiences pertinent to developing the necessary skills to be successful nurses and ultimately provide our community with high quality healthcare.

If you need more information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Jana Causey, Ph.D.

Vice President for Forrest County Campus, Allied Health, and Nursing